

SSI In New Jersey

People in financial need who are age 65 or older or people of any age who are blind or have a disability (including children) may be eligible for monthly cash payments from the federal government. The payments are called Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

You may be eligible for SSI payments if you have little or no income, and if the value of the things you own is less than \$2,000 if you are single, or \$3,000 if you are married. We do not count the value of your home. We usually do not count the value of your car. We may not count some other assets. Call us for more information.

Also, you must live in the U.S. or the Northern Mariana Islands **and** be in one of the following groups:

- U.S. citizens or nationals;
- certain American Indians;
- lawful permanent residents with 40 work credits;
- certain noncitizens with a military service connection, and their spouses or unmarried dependent children;
- certain noncitizens lawfully residing in the U.S. who are blind or disabled, or who *were receiving* SSI on August 22, 1996; or
- certain Amerasian immigrants, Cuban/Haitian entrants, refugees, asylees or people whose deportation or removal has been withheld and who may be eligible for seven years after the date their immigration status was granted.

For more information about noncitizen eligibility requirements, ask for the factsheet, *Supplemental Security Income for Noncitizens* (Publication No. 05-11051).

Also, you must apply for any other money benefits for which you may be eligible.

Even though we run the program, SSI is not the same as Social Security. Money for SSI payments comes from the general fund of the U.S. Treasury.

The state of New Jersey adds money to the federal payment. For your convenience, the state of New Jersey and the federal government have agreed to include the amount in the federal payment. You receive one payment during the first week of each month that includes both federal and state money.

The back of this factsheet shows the year 2003 maximum monthly payment amounts for different living arrangements.

Medical Assistance

If you receive SSI, you usually can get medical assistance (Medicaid) automatically. A separate Medicaid application isn't necessary. You will receive a letter of acceptance and a Medicaid Identification Card if you are eligible for SSI. If your SSI is denied, you should file for Medicaid with the Department of Human Services.

Food Stamps

If you receive SSI, you also may be eligible for food stamps. Food stamps can help you buy more food without spending more money. We don't decide if you can get food stamps. However, if you live in a household where everyone is applying for or receiving SSI, you can apply for food stamps at a Social Security office.

Other Social Services

Many New Jersey counties provide the following social services at no cost to people receiving SSI:

- counseling casework;
- homemaker services;
- information and referral services;
- housing services;
- home-delivered meals;
- transportation;

- educational training and employment assistance;
- friendly visitors;
- special assistance for the blind and deaf;
- special assistance for drug abusers;
- money management services; and
- consumer protection services.

For more information on these and other social services, contact your local county welfare agency.

SSI Payments

The amounts below include both federal and state money. Not all SSI recipients receive the maximum payment amounts. Payments may be lower if you have other income. You can get more information about payment levels and how income affects them from your local office.

For More Information

Check our website at www.ssa.gov for answers to many of the questions you may have and for other Social Security services you may need. You can order publications and forms, use our online Retirement and Benefits Planners, request to receive *eNews*, our free electronic newsletter, and even file for retirement online. Or you may call us toll-free at 1-800-772-1213. We can answer specific questions by phone from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. on business days and provide information by automated phone service 24 hours a day. If you are deaf or hard of hearing, you may call our TTY number, 1-800-325-0778, between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on business days.

We treat all calls confidentially—whether they're made to our toll-free numbers or to a local office. We also want to make sure you receive accurate and courteous service, so a second Social Security representative monitors some incoming and outgoing calls.

Category	New Jersey Total SSI Payment
Individual living alone or with others in own household	\$583.25
Individual living with ineligible spouse	854.36
Individual living in someone else's household and receiving support and maintenance	412.31
Individual living in licensed residential health care facility	702.05
Individual living in public general hospital or long-term health facility (Medicaid-approved)	40.00
Couple living alone or with others in own household	854.36
Couple living in someone else's household and receiving support and maintenance	645.76
Couple living in licensed residential health care facility	1,385.36

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